

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Gerd Hofmann et al.

Art Unit : 2833

Serial No. : 10/518,907

Examiner : Felix O. Figueroa

Filed : October 21, 2005

Conf. No. : 5392

Title : BRANCHING DEVICE FOR AN ELECTRIC LINE

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

TRANSMITTAL LETTER REGARDING EXTENSIONS FEES

Upon a routine check of PAIR, a Notification of non-compliance was found in the image file wrapper. Although the Notification lists a mailing date of July 9, 2008, the Notification does not appear to have actually been mailed. Specifically, the status of the application has not been changed from "Notice of Appeal filed," the transaction history does not include an entry of Mail Notification – Defect Appeal Brief, the status date was December 6, 2008, and such a Notification has not been received by appellants or their representative.

The Patent Appeals Specialist indicated that the Notification appeared to have been erroneously entered into the system without being mailed, and that a proper Notification will be sent shortly. *See* Applicant Interview Summary of December 22, 2008. Upon a further conversation on January 6, 2009, the Patent Appeals Specialist indicated that a new Notification was to be mailed. To avoid confusion or accidental abandonment, appellants hereby preemptively respond to the Notification to be mailed (and within six months of the date of the non-mailed Notification found on PAIR). Accordingly, appellants understand this response to be timely and to not require fees.

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The Director is hereby authorized to charge any fees under 37 CFR 1.16 and 1.17 which may be required by this paper to Deposit Account No. 06-1050. The Director also is hereby authorized to apply any additional fees or credits to Deposit Account No. 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: January 9, 2009

/Gabriel D. Olander/

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